

March 27, 2022

To my elected lawmakers and all concerned,

I am writing to express my written thoughts and official testimony regarding forthcoming Gun Violence Prevention and other Public Health Related Bills (S.B. No. 477 An Act Concerning the public health of residents of the state; and H.B. No. 5397 An Act Declaring Gun Violence A Public Health Crisis and Establishing the Office of Gun Violence Prevention and Advisory Council on Gun Violence Prevention and Intervention).

Gun violence is not an “epidemic” in the medical sense of the word, nor is it contagious like a virus. It is not a “widespread occurrence of an infectious disease in a community at a particular time” as defined by dictionary. And it is NOT a problem among good gun owning citizens. It is a social problem among criminals and an emotional issue of the mentally ill. It is a behavioral problem for those who are violent, aggressive and dangerous to themselves and others.

If you believe that the answer to reducing gun violence means more bans, restrictions and laws against inanimate objects and good citizens, then I vehemently you to no support these bills.

If lowering gun violence means looking into why people turn to shooting others to solve their problems or to commit crimes, then I might support you. If you plan to look at ways of keeping guns out of the hands of violent and mentally ill people, then I might support you. But DO NOT continue to ban, restrict, or infringe upon good the desire only to protect and defend themselves and their loved ones from criminals, crazy people, enemies foreign and domestic, and from tyrants.

More ban, restrictions and laws against good citizens only empowers criminals. Do you really want to give violent people advantages? Do you want more innocent people to become victims? Because that’s what you will do if you make it more difficult for good citizens to defend themselves.

Thank you for your consideration

Luis Nesprido

Town of Southington